# GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
# LAW AND JUSTICE
# LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3187
ANSWERED ON:17.12.2015
Merger of Various Tribunals
Ahlawat Smt. Santosh;Boianapalli Shri Vinod Kumar;Maragatham Smt. K.;Reddy Shri J.C. Divakar;Saraswati Shri Sumedhanand;Yadav Shri Om Prakash

**Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:**

(a) the present status of progress made with regard to the merger of various tribunals in the country;
(b) whether these tribunals have been successful in achieving their objectives and if not, the steps taken/being taken by the Government to review/improve their functioning;
(c) whether the Government proposes to introduce any rules/ guidelines enabling a sitting high court judge to be appointed as Chairperson of these tribunals and if so, the details and the present status thereof;
(d) the total number of cases pending in various tribunals as on date, tribunal-wise;
(e) the steps taken/being taken by the Government to improve the efficiency of these tribunals so as to ensure expeditious disposal of pending cases; and
(f) whether any proposal is under consideration of the Government for increasing the retirement age and emoluments of Judges of Supreme Court and High Courts and if so, the details and the
present status thereof?

## Answer

ANSWER
MINISTER OF LAW AND JUSTICE
(SHRI D. V. SADANANDA GOWDA)
(a) A preliminary study on merger of various tribunals in the country has been done, but the final decision has not been taken.
(b) Being specialized bodies, the disposal of cases by Tribunals is faster than that of the courts;
(c) No, Madam;
(d) No centralized data is maintained regarding the cases pending in various tribunals;
(e) Being statutory creation, discharging quasi-judicial functions Government does not interfere in the functioning of tribunals;
(f) No, Madam. However, the Constitution (One Hundred and Fourteenth Amendment) Bill, 2010 was introduced in the Lok Sabha on 25 August 2010 with the objective of bringing the retirement age of High Court Judges at par with that of the Supreme Court Judges by increasing the retirement age of Judges of High Courts from 62 to 65 years. The Bill was referred to the Parliamentary Standing Committee for examination and report, which recommended that the proposed Bill in its present form should be passed without delay. The Bill could not be taken up for consideration and passing in the Parliament. On completion of term of the 15thLok Sabha in February 2014, the Bill stands lapsed and so it is not under consideration.